

Message Text

UNCLASSIFIED

PAGE 01 RABAT 04216 021019Z
ACTION NEA-10

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TO USINFO WASHDC
INFO SECSTATE WASHDC 2689

UNCLAS RABAT 4216

USIAC

E.O. 11652: N/A

SUBJECT: MEDIA REACTION - VANCE TRIP IN MOROCCAN PRESS

USINFO FOR INA, IOR, IPS, IBS
SECSTATE FOR NEA

SUMMARY: ALL MOROCCAN PAPERS AUGUST 1 FRONT-PAGE VANCE MISSION, WITH
SELECTED COMMENT FROM OTHER ARAB CAPITALS BUT LITTLE LOCALLY GENERATE
D
OPINION. PRO-GOVERNMENT "LE MATIN" HEADLINE SUMS UP GENERAL FEELING
HERE: "THE LAST CHANCE?" END SUMMARY.

1. ALL MOROCCAN MORNING PAPERS EXCEPT COMMUNIST "AL BAYANE" FRONT-
PAGE VANCE ARRIVAL IN ALEXANDRIA. MINIMUM OF EDITORIAL COMMENT PER SE

,
BUT WIDE REPRINTING OF ARABIC PRESS, PARTICULARLY EGYPTIAN AND
SYRIAN. E.G., BOTH PRO-GOVERNMENT AND OPPOSITION ISTIQLAL PRESS
REPORTS "AL AHRAM" AND "AL GOUHOURIA" STORY ON PURPORTED CONTENT
OF "AMERICAN PEACE PLAN," WHICH INCLUDES WITHDRAWAL FROM SINAI AND
GOLAN, A WEST BANK REFERENDUM, AND A UN PEACE-KEEPING FORCE IN SOUTH
LEBANON, AND SYRIA'S "AL BAATH" STATING THAT THE ULTIMATE SOLUTION
IS IN HANDS OF THE ARABS, NOT AMERICANS. ISTIQLAL AND EVENING PRO-
GOVERNMENT "MAROC SOIR" ALSO DEVOTE CONSIDERABLE SPACE TO REVELATION
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BY MICHEL ABOU JOUDE, IN BEIRUT'S "AN NAHAR," OF THE PALESTINIAN
PLANS FOR AN INDEPENDENT STATE, TRANSMITTED, HE CLAIMS, FROM
ARAFAT TO CARTER BY PRINCE FAHD.

2. IN ARABIC PRESS, PRO-GOVERNMENT "AL MITHAQ AL WATANI" QUOTES
VANCE, VIA PARIS-BASED "AL MUSTAQBAL," SAYING THAT THE "U.S. CAN
MAKE ISRAEL CHANGE HER POSITION," AND ARABS' FAILURE TO COME TO
GENEVA WOULD BE "PLAYING INTO BEGIN'S HANDS." SAME PAPER ALSO

QUOTES JOSEPH SISCO EXPRESSING PESSIMISM OVER GENEVA, SAYING THAT THE ATTENDANCE OF EGYPT, SYRIA AND JORDAN IS IN EACH CASE DICTATED BY INTERNAL POLITICS, NOT A UNIFIED APPROACH.

3. USFP (SOCIALIST LEFT) REPRODUCES TASS ARTICLE ON ISRAEL CONTRADICTIONS - ISRAEL CANNOT HAVE BOTH PEACE AND THE LEFT BANK. SAME PAPER IMPLIES THAT ADMINISTRATION EXPRESSION OF "DISAPPOINTMENT" OVER THE LEGITIMIZING OF WEST BANK SETTLEMENTS WAS WEAK, AND ASKS "IF ALL THE ARAB STATES HAVE REJECTED THE BEGIN PLAN, WHY SHOULD THEY BOTHER TO GO TO GENEVA?"

4. ISTIQLAL'S "AL ALAM" STUDIES THE EFFECT OF THE JEWISH VOTE IN AMERICAN POLITICS IN ARTICLE SIGNED BY YOUSSEF HAYKAL, FORMER JORDANIAN AMBASSADOR IN WASHINGTON. ACCORDING TO HAYKAL, CARTER IS SPLIT INTO "THE MAN OF PRINCIPLE," WHO EXPOUSES A PALESTINIAN HOMELAND, AND THE "POLITICAL MAN", WHOSE REELECTION DEPENDS ON JEWISH VOTES. THE ARABS, HE CONCLUDES MUST CONVINCE WASHINGTON THAT ITS GREATER INTERESTS LIE WITH THE ARAB CAUSE.

5. FINALLY, ALL PAPERS, GOVERNMENT AND ALL SHADES OF OPPOSITION, DEVOTE CONSIDERABLE SPACE TO INTERVIEW ON MOROCCAN TV OF PLO EXECUTIVE

COMMITTEE MEMBER KHALED EL HASSAN. AL HASSAN PRAISES CARTER'S DEVOTION TO PEACE, BUT FAULTS HIM ON BASING HIS PEACE PLANS ON EVENTS OF 1967 RATHER THAN 1947, AND FOR OVERLOOKING PALESTINIANS IN HIS HUMAN RIGHTS CAMPAIGN. (SEE SEPTEL.)

6. NOTABLE IN ALL THIS IS INCREASED USIS PLACEMENT, INCLUDING IMS' "VANCE - LOW-PROFILE MEDIATOR" IN ISTIQLAL'S "L'OPINION" AND EXCERPTS FROM LAST PRESIDENTIAL PRESS CONFERENCE IN ARABIC IN "AL MITHAQ
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AT WATANI."STEPHENS

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
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Disposition Approved on Date:
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Disposition Comment:
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Review Release Date: n/a
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Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
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TAGS: MPOL, OVIP, MO, (VANCE, CYRUS R)
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Type: TE
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